

Health News Release

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Vancouver pharmacy assistant and technician indefinitely suspended

OLYMPIA — The credentials of Vancouver pharmacy assistant and pharmacy technician Antoinette M. Valenzuela (VA60062829, VB00071922) have been indefinitely suspended by the Board of Pharmacy and the state Department of Health.

This order completes the process that started with charges and summary suspension in January 2012. Valenzuela cannot practice in Washington until her credentials are reinstated.

Valenzuela diverted hydrocodone, oxycodone, and methadone for about six months in 2011. She admitted that she increased doses of hydrocodone for her own use, and gave drugs to her brother and to a friend.

Legal documents in this case are available online; click the link to "<u>Provider Credential Search</u>" on the Department of Health <u>Department of Health home page</u> (www.doh.wa.gov) or call 360-236-4700. Anyone who believes a health care provider acted unprofessionally is encouraged to call that number to report their complaint.

The Board of Pharmacy regulates pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, and pharmacy assistants in Washington. The program establishes, monitors, and enforces qualifications for licensing, consistent standards of practice, continuing competency mechanisms, and discipline.

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